



# Saint Anthony's High School

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Principal

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Dear Saint Anthony's Family,

You cannot read a newspaper, turn on the TV or look at Social Media without seeing discussion concerning the Coronavirus and the Flu Season, which is in the forefront of everyone's mind. With this thought in mind, I felt it necessary and important to write to all of you to tell you what we are doing here at Saint Anthony's High School with regard to the Coronavirus and the Flu season.

First of all, I can tell you that every student here at the High School is healthy. WE have been most proactive in all of our dealings with the situation. Every student in the building who has demonstrated any type of symptoms of the Flu has been sent home, then asked to have a medical release before coming back to school. All of our International students have also had medical clearance to be with us here at St. Anthony's and our perfectly healthy, I am pleased to say that everyone has been most cooperative in these matters.

In addition, our Maintenance staff has been most diligent in the cleaning and sanitizing of the building; they have also purchased equipment that is of hospital quality to continue the cleaning of every aspect of the building.

We are in constant communication with our local school districts, the CDC website and other entities from both the State and Federal Government, who have all proven very helpful with updating us on the situation. The second page of this letter contains more detailed information from the NYS Department of Health on both the virus itself, as well as preventative measures.

As men and women of Faith, we have the opportunity now to put that Faith into practice, this is not a time for Crisis or Chaos, it is a time to pray, listen and seek advice. Each day here at school we pray for those affected by this international crisis, each day we are able to offer comfort to those in need. As we continue in the season of Lent, let us be mindful of all who need our advice, comfort and prayers. I assure you that every child is safe and cared for in this building, I assure you that we treat your child and take care of your child in the same way you do. As always feel free to contact me with your concerns. I ask that you pray for me, as I for you.

In Saint Anthony, Our Patron,

Brother David Anthony Migliorino, OSF

The following information has been provided to us by the NYS Department of Health:

### **What do we know?**

Since this virus is very new, health authorities continue to carefully watch how this virus spreads. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) is working hard to learn as much as possible about this new virus, so that we can better understand how it spreads and causes illness. The CDC considers this virus to be a serious public health concern. Based on current information the CDC recommends avoiding travel to China. Updated travel information related to 2019-nCoV can be found at <https://wwwnc.cdc.gov/travel/notices/warning/novel-coronavirus-china>

### **How Does 2019 Novel (New) Coronavirus Spread?**

Health experts believe the virus probably spreads from animals to humans and from person to person. It's not clear yet how easily the virus spreads from person-to-person. The 2019 Novel Coronavirus (2019-nCoV) is not currently a concern for the general public and is not actively circulating among New Yorkers at this time. Therefore, there is no need to cancel school or social events, and there is no need for students or school staff to wear surgical masks at school.

### **What are the symptoms?**

Information to date suggests that 2019-nCoV causes mild-to-moderate illness and symptoms like the flu, including fever, cough, and difficulty breathing.

### **Preventative Measures**

The New York State Department of Health (DOH) recommends the following ways to minimize the spread of all respiratory viruses, including 2019-nCoV:

*Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds. Use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer that contains at least 60% alcohol if soap and water are not available.*

*Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth with unwashed hands.*

*Avoid close contact with people who are sick.*

*Stay home when you are sick.*

*Cover your mouth and nose with a tissue or your sleeve (not your hands) when coughing or sneezing. If you use a tissue, throw it in the trash.*

*Routinely clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces.*